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JPRS L/9852

16 July 1981

Worldwide Report

NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

(FOUO 33/81)



FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

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HONG KONG

CUSTOMS WATCHING COURIERS OF LOCAL, THAI SYNDICATES

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 12 Jun 81 p 19

/Report by Tommy Lewis/

/Text/

Customs Investigations Bureau officers are probing the activities of at least 20 local and Thai syndicates which are using couriers to smuggle drugs into Hongkong.

From estimates based on the number of existing syndicates and from conservative calculations that each recruits two couriers, there could be at least 40 people making trips into Hongkong with small consignments of drugs each month.

These couriers, investigators say, are responsible for smuggling small quantities of drugs into Hongkong to boost supplies for an estimated 25,000 heroin addicts.

These smugglers get their consignments through customs by hiding the drugs inside their bodies, usually in condoms.

"We know there are local syndicates as well as Thai syndicates employing couriers to smuggle drugs into Hongkong and that racketeers are using the internal concealment method — a tactic used in the past for gold smuggling," said Assistant Superintendent Mak Kam-lau of the Customs Investigations Bureau.

He said the internal concealment tactic came to their notice in March 1979 when a local resident was arrested at Kai Tak airport on his return from Bangkok. A condom packed with drugs was found concealed in his rectum.

Since the first arrest was made, an alert was mounted at the airport for couriers entering Hongkong with drugs concealed in their bodies.

Last year, customs officers, working closely with Narcotics Bureau detectives at the airport, arrested eight people — including two women — using the internal concealment method.

One courier who escaped detection at the airport died of an overdose shortly afterwards when a condom packed with drugs broke inside his body.

And so far this year, officers at the airport have arrested 13 people — seven Thais and six local men — on their arrival from Thailand and found drugs concealed in their bodies.

Recently, a man who returned from Bangkok, was arrested at the airport and 280 grams of heroin base packed in two condoms was found concealed in his rectum.

It was the biggest single internal concealment seizure ever made at Kai Tak airport.

The man was taken to Queen Elizabeth Hospital where he expelled one of the condoms but failed to discharge the other one.

An operation was performed to extract the remaining condom — the first time surgery has been carried out for this purpose here.

Supt Mak said couriers adopted the internal concealment method after customs officers grew wise to other tactics such as the use of false-bottomed suitcases and entering Hongkong via countries like the Philippines, Korea, Japan and Taiwan which are not major sources of drugs.

Drug-fighters in these countries now put suspects and their associates under surveillance.

Hongkong is told about the suspected drug couriers and they are searched on arrival.

But, said Supt Mak, "thousands of people are leaving or arriving daily and it is impossible for everyone to be stopped and searched on their return."

"We believe that couriers of various syndicates — both locals and Thais — have managed to slip past customs checks at Kai Tak," he added.

"We are doing our best to prevent drugs from flowing into the Colony but we just can't stop and search everyone because this causes inconveniences to genuine travellers."

He said customs and police officers select their targets from intelligence reports.

From these reports it is believed that there

are at least 20 small drug syndicates involved in the import of drugs in small consignments by air routes.

Customs investigators believe that bosses of these syndicates lure couriers by offering them free trips and rewards of about \$3,000 for returning undetected with the drugs.

Meanwhile, the price of a small packet of heroin sold on the streets has dropped by 100 per cent to \$20 compared to \$40 early this year.

But the purity of the drug has also dropped from 30 per cent to 25 per cent.

Investigators say prices may have dropped because more drugs have been smuggled in. But, they add, this could also be because of the decrease in purity.

Supt Mak said that intelligence reports indicate that there has been a bumper crop this year in the Golden Triangle (the area around the borders of Thailand, Burma and Laos).

Because of this more drug consignments may be heading for Hongkong in the next few months.

"It seems that there is ample supply of heroin at present," Supt Mak said.

"Apart from the Kai Tak watch, our officers are also keeping a sharp eye on ships which may come in with bigger drug consignments," he said.

CS0: 5320

HONG KONG

ALLEGED TRAFFICKER RULED EXTRADITABLE TO HOLLAND

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 18 Jun 81 pp 1, 11

[Report by Janita Wong]

[Excerpt]

Causeway Bay Court magistrate, Mr Alexander Lau, yesterday rejected an application by Crown counsel that he discharge himself in an extradition case, saying that he did not consider himself biased, prejudiced or that he had a pecuniary interest in the proceedings.

Deputy principal Crown counsel Frank Stock had made the application on Tuesday on the grounds that Mr Lau had breached the rules of justice.

A telephone conversation

between Mr Lau and senior Crown counsel Hugh Sinclair about the case in the absence of the defence on Monday afternoon led to Mr Stock's application.

(Mr Sinclair represented the Crown in the extradition proceedings.)

After Mr Lau had rejected his application, Mr Stock applied for the case to be moved to a higher court and sought an adjournment on the basis that there had been no judicial exercise of Mr Lau's discretion.

But defence counsel, Mr

Gordon Hampton, objected, saying that Mr Stock had referred to no authority for the application.

Furthermore, it had been held many times that discretion should be exercised judicially.

Mr Lau said that in the absence of any authority supplied by the Crown, he refused the application.

He then delivered his ruling on the extradition proceedings against a Thai engineer, Vonchai Tumtonkitkul (29), alias Danny Conrad, who is alleged to be linked

with the illegal trafficking of 51 kilos of heroin into Holland. custody.

Vonchai was arrested in Hongkong on March 16 on a provisional warrant issued by the Dutch authorities on March 12.

Mr Lau ruled that on the evidence provided by the Crown, a prima facie case had been established for the extradition of Vonchai to Holland.

However, Vonchai has the right to apply for a writ of habeas corpus within 15 days.

He was remanded in jail

CSO: 5320

HONG KONG

NON-CHINESE TEENAGERS INCREASINGLY TURNING TO DRUGS

American Students Arrested

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 6 Jun 81 p 1

/Text/

Six pupils of the International School have been expelled for drug abuse during the past few months.

This was confirmed yesterday by the school's principal, Mr David Rittmann.

He declined to give the nationalities of the students, or their ages. But informed sources said three of those expelled were Americans who were arrested in Wanchai by Narcotics Bureau detectives.

One of the students, aged 16, was arrested as he was buying heroin from a drug pedlar at a playground behind the China Fleet Club.

The pedlar was also arrested and a quantity of heroin seized.

Following the boy's arrest, sources said, he told police that he had been given money by two other youths to buy drugs.

Detectives later arrested two Americans from the boy's school.

Officers of the Narcotics Bureau last night confirmed the arrest of the three schoolboys, but declined to give any further information about them.

Superintendent Keith Tiddy said the Narcotics Bureau would like to hear from schools or other organisations which may have a drug problem.

Growing Problem Seen

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 7 Jun 81 p 8

/Report by Jane Hayhoe/

/Text/

More teenagers are turning to drugs as a means of escape or for kicks.

Police figures show that last year in the 15 to 19 age group there were 243 known drug addicts — an increase of 25 per cent over the previous year.

And with 150 teenagers arrested for drug-related offences in the first four months of this year, the problem is growing.

An inspector with the Narcotics Bureau yesterday pointed out that drug-taking among teenagers is still not as significant a problem as it is in America and Europe.

And it is a small percentage of the number of adult addicts which is estimated at 40,000 to 50,000.

But it is still a serious problem.

"If you have one heroin addict in a school, he is a dangerous person," warned the inspector.

"Heroin-taking is a social thing with kids and they will experiment by taking it out of curiosity more than anything else."

The inspector was speaking after last week's arrest of three schoolchildren, one of whom was caught buying heroin on a Wanchai playground.

The three are believed to be among six members of the International School who have been expelled for drug abuse in the past few months.

The inspector said the bureau has had a "few problems" with drug-taking by some pupils of the school in the past.

He said the bureau was "keeping an eye" on the school.

He said it was more difficult for non-Chinese teenagers to get drugs as supply was by word of mouth through "a friend of a friend."

"Europeans and Americans would generally find it difficult to get a source of supply," he said.

Even so a proportionally large number of American teenagers here have experimented with drugs.

The American life-style meant they were more exposed to soft drugs as a social habit, whereas heroin, the most popular drug among addicts here, was taken by the Chinese for different reasons.

"The Chinese have a tradition of opium-taking and as it is difficult to use opium — the smell means it is easily detected — heroin is used as it has a similar effect," he said.

The habit was originally seen as a means of escape from difficult living conditions.

"It could be taken because of pressure but it is difficult to put your finger on the reason."

Another nationality difference is that drugs in Europe and America are often taken by university students, but Chinese teenagers taking drugs are mainly found among the less-educated lower classes and there was no problem with university students.

The Commissioner for Narcotics, Mr Peter Lee, warned in March that drug traffickers were using young people as couriers.

He said this had led to a rise in the danger of drug addiction among young people.

And Mr Lee warned of the possible rise in the drugs trade with this year's expected opium harvest in the Golden Triangle of 600 tons — compared with an average of about 150 tons in the past two years.

Police Appeal to Parents

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 14 Jun 81 pp 1, 10

[Report by Kevin Sinclair]

[Text]

Police have appealed to parents to help them catch the narcotics pedlars who provide teenagers with deadly drugs.

Narcotics Bureau detectives make it plain that they are not interested in taking action against young drug addicts, but want to concentrate their energies on the traffickers.

Now, detectives plan new moves in the wake of an apparent recent upsurge in narcotics use by expatriate teenagers.

Surveys and undercover intelligence reports show there could be up to 100 young non-Chinese who have a drug problem.

Not all of them are at school. They include young people from all walks of life.

They range from youngsters who smoke the occasional marijuana or hashish cigarette to teenagers who are heavily addicted to heroin.

In a recent letter to parents the headmaster of International School, Mr David Rittmann, said 10 senior pupils at the school had been counselled intensively after having been found to be involved with drugs.

Their continued presence in the school required medical verification that drugs were not being used.

It was found that several

students had circumvented the medical procedures and six were expelled.

Four others remained at the school and continued to receive attention and their possible return to school in the next academic year was under evaluation.

A young inspector from the Narcotics Bureau recently visited the school and addressed students. Mr Rittmann's letter said.

The school board, its counselling team and administration are reviewing the handling of the recent drug cases to see if future improvements can be made.

A community advisory group is being formed to examine ways in which education and prevention efforts can be improved both at home and school.

The orientation and education programmes for parents and students in the next academic year is to include the personal, moral and legal aspects of drug use, the letter said.

"We are all affected by the serious problems drug abuse can cause and have caused to our young people and their families," Mr Rittmann wrote.

"In addition to the action steps described above, 10

families and young people are much in need of your support and prayers.

"Please feel free to phone me to voice your opinion, ask a question or check a rumour."

Superintendent Keith Tidey of the Narcotics Bureau appealed for the co-operation of both parents and schools to help catch the traffickers who are the source of heroin.

"If a child has taken drugs he must have got them from somewhere, and we want to know where," Mr Tidey said.

He stressed it is not an offence to be an addict and it would be extremely unlikely that a student who told police what he or she knew would be prosecuted.

"Our first priority is the welfare of the children," he said.

With the help of a doctor who has been deeply involved in treating young addicts and with the aid of officials from Hongkong schools, Mr Tidey told parents of the danger signs they should look for if they suspect their children are involved with narcotics.

One sign is a general falling off in standards, behavioural, academic, sporting and moral.

Another is general sickness, with the child being ill more often than he or she should be.

A sudden need for more money is another sign, although Mr Tidey and the other experts agreed that many of those with drug problems seem to get ample cash from their parents.

A loss of appetite is another sign of drug abuse.

But one of the most important signs is a change in the behaviour of the child, although this might be difficult to spot because of the mercurial swings in mood that are normal during the teenage years.

Mr Tidey said that if parents have suspicions about their children they could talk to Narcotics Bureau detectives who will accord them strictest confidence.

So can children who have become involved with drugs.

The experts I spoke to last week all agreed that it is often useless for parents to ask their children if they are taking drugs.

The only realistic course of action is to insist on an immediate medical examination.

Mr Tidey wants parents and students who have taken drugs to talk to him so that Narcotics Bureau detectives can continue their war against traffickers.

This is a quiet battle being fought, without headlines, in which police are gathering intelligence about the sources of drugs.

Although International School is at the centre of the present drugs scare, parents of pupils at other institutions should not be complacent.

There have been no recent cases of narcotics abuse at Island School, for example, but principal Mr Jonty Driver and his teachers have a continuing dialogue with students to attempt to ensure that a drug problem does not develop.

Why does International School seem to have a bigger problem than other schools?

Experts theorise that it could be because many of the teenagers at the school have grown up in an environment (the United States) where drugs are more accepted than elsewhere.

What is worrying to both police and teachers is that all the heroin addicts questioned graduated to the drug after experimenting with marijuana.

Police are involved with the Drug Abuse Sub-Committee of the Hongkong Association of Pharmaceutical Industry which arranges seminars and workshops for teachers and trainee teachers.

Talks are also given to senior pupils in schools by the police, doctors, pharmacists, teachers, Education Department staff, Medical and Health experts and others involved in the programme.

"There is a certain faction of young people experimenting with drugs," Supt Tidey said.

"Parents should be warned

what to look for.

"Parents may feel something is wrong but the natural tendency is to disbelieve the worst.

"When confronted, children will deny it and parents will tend to believe the child and believe that all is well.

"Things are often far from well."

The various experts spoken to during the week agreed that the rebellious teenage years are a time when young people are highly inquisitive about the world about them and prone to experimentation.

Mr Driver said: "Some will experiment with booze, some with sex and some with drugs."

Those who experiment with sex are not destined to become "Rippers," he said.

Those who experiment with drink will probably not become alcoholics and those who experiment with drugs would not necessarily become addicts.

But a positive programme of co-operation between family and school has to be developed.

Then, when experiments become dangerous, family and teachers can deal with it as a team.

"We have to trust parents to tell us the truth and vice-versa," he said.

"Unless a kid is actually picked up with drugs it is hard to tell if he or she is taking them.

"If children go through a bad phase it could be just a part of growing up."

Mr Driver said that students at his school are aware that if they are caught abusing drugs they are in for "the high jump."

He would immediately inform the Narcotics Bureau, he said.

"I am not going to indulge in talking about the moral issues of taking marijuana, for instance," Mr Driver said.

"It is against the law, and that is that.

"But if kids have a problem and they come clean we are going to help them."

A medical expert who has many years of experience in aiding youngsters with drugs problems said there exist ample opportunities for teenagers to get drugs in Hongkong.

He said the blame cannot be laid just on the schools, that parents also have themselves to blame.

Children have the opportunity to go and get drugs, he said.

They return home late and go out in the evening and parents do not realise that their teenage children have changed.

The biggest stumbling block is to get parents to take an interest in what their children are doing.

Parents are not prepared to look the problem right in the face.

"If there is a change in any way in your teenage son or daughter, ask yourself the question why," he advised.

Change in mood, manners, appearance and discipline are all danger signs, but they can develop so slowly that parent are not aware of them or shrug them off as a natural part of growing up.

"Parents are not going to take the worst possible view," he said.

"Teenagers are going to lie if they are asked if they are on drugs and parents are naturally going to accept that lie."

Children seem to have plenty of money to buy drugs.

"Some parents are throwing their children in at the deep end of life without anything to hang on to," the doctor said.

"It is not until the point that they find their son is taking heroin that they admit they have done a bad job as parents."

Mr Rittmann of International School was not available for comment.

His office said he was too busy.

HONG KONG

CUSTOMS OFFICERS SMASH HEROIN FACTORY, SEIZE DRUGS

Two Men Arrested

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 9 Jun 81 p 1

[Text]

Customs officers smashed a heroin factory, a drug storage and distribution centre, and seized drugs and chemicals worth about \$1 million in swoops on both sides of the harbour yesterday.

Two men — one believed to be a chemist and the other a distributor — were found to be immigrants from China who had been in Hongkong for a few years.

"This is the first heroin manufacturing plant we have smashed so far this year," said Assistant Superintendent Mak Kam-lau of the Customs' Investigation Bureau, who directed the raids.

The smashing of the heroin manufacturing plant at Nam Fung Sun Chuen, Quarry Bay and the distribution centre in Tsimshatsui, followed intensive investigations into a drug syndicate.

Four members of the same syndicate were arrested on Friday when CIB officers seized drugs worth more than \$500,000. Those arrested included a newly-wed couple.

CIB officers were out in force yesterday laying ambushes on both sides of the harbour for the drug syndicate, believed to have been in operation for some time.

The syndicate, the officers believe, is responsible for the Colony-wide distribution of drugs to addicts.

In one of the raids, a 26-year-old man was arrested as he left a flat on the 26th floor of Block 12, Nam Fung Sun Chuen, at about 2 pm.

The man, believed to be a chemist of a heroin manufac-

turing plant, was taken back to the premises where CIB officers seized six pounds of No 3 heroin and a large quantity of chemicals associated with the manufacture of heroin.

A room in the two-room flat is believed to have been used as a heroin factory and a drug storage centre.

Earlier, CID officers outside the building spotted a suspected drug distributor who had been one of their "targets" entering the flat in the Nam Fung Sun Chuen building.

He was stopped and searched when he came out later and a pound of No 3 heroin was found in his possession.

The arrested man, aged 26, was later taken back to his flat in Hillwood Road, Tsimshatsui, where CIB officers made a further seizure of half a pound of No 3 heroin.

From the equipment found in the man's flat, the raiding officers believe it was being used as both a drug packing and distribution centre.

Asst Supt Mak said following the arrests and seizures made by his officers, several premises on both sides of the harbour were also raided. No further arrests or seizures were made.

"We are still investigating the syndicate and are hunting for possible members still at large," he said.

Meanwhile, the two arrested men were last night still being detained and questioned by customs officers at their Rumsey Street headquarters.

Other Arrests Follow

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 10 Jun 81 p 1

/Text/

Customs Investigations Bureau officers yesterday arrested a man said to be one of the leaders of a local drug syndicate.

Following the arrest, CIB officers seized more than \$82,000 from the man's Shanghai Street home, believed to be part of the proceeds of a recent drug transaction.

Some operations of the syndicate — a heroin manufacturing plant in Nam Fung Sun Chuen and a drugs packing centre in Hillwood Road, Tsimshatsui — were smashed yesterday by CIB officers.

A suspected chemist and a distributor were arrested in those raids and about \$1 million worth of drugs and chemicals seized.

The man arrested yesterday — the seventh connected with the syndicate in the past two weeks — was last night being detained for questioning.

No charge has been preferred against him.

CIB Assistant Superintendent K. L. Mak said he believed they have broken the backbone of the syndicate.

"We are still looking for three suspected members," Supt Mak said.

In another operation yesterday afternoon, CIB officers intercepted a car and found a kilo of heroin base in the boot.

The two people in the vehicle were arrested.

The heroin base if converted into No 3 heroin would be worth \$750,000.

Supt Mak said his officers intercepted the car in Pak Tin Chuen, Shatin, at about 2 pm.

CSO: 5320

MALAYSIA

SEA PATROLS MOUNTED AGAINST DRUG SMUGGLERS

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 14 May 81 p 3

[Text]

KUALA LUMPUR, Wed. — Dadah traffickers are dumping drugs along the coastal areas particularly in the northern region, the Deputy Finance Minister, Datuk Mak Hon Kam, said here today.

"Because of this, the Customs and Police departments have formed a special operations committee in the north to check on dadah traffickers coming in by sea," he added.

Both departments will soon carry out joint sea patrols off the coasts of Kedah, Perlis and Province Wellesly.

"We want to curb smuggling of goods, particularly dadah and firearms," he said.

Datuk Mak said this after receiving six narco dogs from the First Secretary of the Australian High Commission here, Mr Clifford Craigie at the Customs Dog Unit. Also present was the Customs Director General, Datuk Abdul Rahim Tak.

The dog handlers were recently trained in Australia.

He added that Police and Customs patrol craft would install special wireless sets so that they could communicate with each other.

Currently, the Customs and Police boats operate on different wave bands.

Datuk Mak said the Customs Department would soon be getting seven patrol launches costing more than \$100 million.

He said another 30 speedboats would be delivered soon and they would be deployed in the coastal areas in the country.

He said 20 Customs officers were now undergoing sea training at the Lumut Naval base.

Since January, the Customs officers have seized 2,156 grm of heroin, 1,800 grm of raw opium, 7,763 grm of prepared opium and 2,323 grm of ganja.

They have also destroyed 450 ganja plants.

Datuk Mak said the drug traffickers have switched their

tactics by going to sea because of too many obstacles on land.

The barbed wire fencing in the north and the surveillance by members of the Joint Border Patrol Unit have effectively controlled the trafficking of dadah into or through the country.

On the dogs, he said the animals would be fully utilised in the detection of dadah throughout the country.

Two of them would be stationed in Sabah and one in Sarawak.

He said the West German Government would be giving another five narco dogs soon.

Datuk Mak said with the opening of new airports and ports, more dogs were needed to sniff out the drugs.

CSO: 5300/8348

MALAYSIA

DRUG ARRESTS IN FIRST 4 MONTHS. OF 1981

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 20 May 81 p 5

[Text]

KUALA KUBU BARU, Tues. — Twenty foreigners have been arrested here by police for dadah offences since January, CID Director Datuk Abdul Rahman Ismail said today.

They were among 2,700 people detained during the period.

Last year 42 foreigners were among 5,610 held here for possession and trafficking in dadah.

During the first four months of the year police also seized 15.5 kg of heroin, 54 gm of morphine, 18.5 kg of opium and 349 kg of ganja, he said.

Datuk Rahman said this when he opened the 11-day United Nations-Malaysia "Advanced Drug Law Enforcement" course held at the Police College here.

Thirty-one officers from the police, customs, immigration, Health Ministry, Chemistry Department and Postal Department are participating.

Seven narcotics and customs officers from the United Nations, Interpol, Hong Kong, United Kingdom and the United States will be lecturing them on international dadah trafficking and law enforcement.

The narcotics officers are here at the invitation of Mr Michael Davies, the Chief of

the Illicit Supply, Demand and Reduction Section of the United Nations Division of Narcotic Drugs based in Vienna.

Disrupt supply

Datuk Rahman also revealed that the seizure of 37.4 kg of raw opium earlier this month indicated that heroin was being processed in the country.

"We're now trying to trace whether there is a processing laboratory here," he said.

He said the recent seizure of 58 kg of heroin in Bangkok by the Thai authorities indicated that dadah was flowing in from the Golden Triangle.

"I'm sure there'll be an increase in the flow of dadah into our country."

"We discussed this matter with the Thai authorities last month."

"Action is in hand to disrupt the supply by hitting at the five major dadah trafficking syndicates operating between the two countries," he said.

He said the anti-narcotics division was being expanded to 2,843 officers and men to meet the dadah abuse and trafficking problem. The men were being sent regularly for courses to update their knowledge.

CSO: 5300/8348

MALAYSIA

LIFE AT DRUG REHABILITATION CENTER DESCRIBED

Conditions Detailed

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 23 May 81 p 2

[Article by Halinah Todd]

[Text]

The addict's lingo

■ **Starlight** — Hitting forehead with a hard flick of the middle finger. A punishment for breaches of the Rukun Pusat.

Rukun Pusat — The inmates' rules as opposed to the authorities' rules. Each group has its own variations but basically they are:

1. Don't squeal.
2. Respect senior boys, then officers.
3. Don't form cliques.
4. Share everything.
5. Don't masturbate.
6. Don't abscond.

The MCA do not demand respect for officers. They insist that gang loyalties be left at the gate.

Fall-in tandas — The offending junior has to fall in — or report — in the House toilet where "we beat the daylight out of him".

Blanket party — A more severe punishment than either *starlight* or *fall-in tandas*. The offender is wrapped in a blanket so that he cannot identify his assailants, and then punched mercilessly by a group of seniors.

Golf lessons — Cutting the grass in the compound. This is the first project and the lowliest for the new inmate.

Cigarette run — Before last year, the inmates went on a daily

march with a 15-minute rest period halfway through. A selected boy ran through the jungle track to an Orang Asli shop, bought cigarettes and ran back.

If he failed to get back before the 15 minutes was up, and got caught, he was punished by the warders — and punished at the inmates' court that night. These marches were banned in early 1980, and the Pusat allowed a cigarette ration of five sticks a day.

But the runs, now called *Commando*, go on — over the fence at night in between head counts, for the commercial quality brands.

THE board at the gate says this rehabilitation centre is run by the Ministry of Welfare. But only on the surface. Real control over life here is wielded by *Abangs* and *Tai Kohs* — the leaders of groups into which the 150-odd addicts have organised themselves.

The Superintendent of the Kuala Kubu Bharu:

Pusat claims that his officers have put down the gangs and wrested back control. But this is only partly true.

There are 137 addicts in this 13-acre Pusat in a remote valley a few miles out of KKB. Most of them are in their 20s. There is only one teenager. They are people who have joined the programme voluntarily; addicts who have been netted in the police's "op-

eration sapu" and criminals whom the courts have decided to allow the chance of rehabilitation at the centre rather than send to prison.

But all are under the same court order which commits them to six months at the centre and two years' compulsory after-care.

For good behaviour, the inmates can be released after four months. For bad behaviour, they

can be turned over to the police to be charged and sent to prison.

These are the only two weapons the administration has against the sub-culture. This year it began using them.

There are also two kinds of authority in the Pusat. Officially, there are six dormitories — Houses. Each is headed by a House Captain and his assistant. The leaders chosen from among the

seniors by the inmates are almost always legitimised by "appointment" from the administration.

Unofficially, the inmates form separate racial groups named after political parties — MCA, MIC and State divisions of UMNO. These groups are organised in a rigid hierarchy based on seniority. Every inmate wears a name tag, bearing his year and number. No 81/16 is *abang* to 81/17 and pays obeisance to 81/15 and so on.

Anyone who has been longer than three months at the Pusat is a senior and all juniors owe him obedience. The most senior is Number One in his racial group.

In a crisis, the authority of the Number One of, say the MCA, is superior to that of any Captain — but in daily affairs the Captain is boss.

It is the Captain who issues the "licence" to the new inmate to stay in his house. To get a "licence" even four months ago meant going through a brutal initiation beating (see James' story) and being deprived of all facilities, except with the permission of the seniors. (Even the cigarette ration was taken.)

Changes

"When I wanted to see a junior for a counselling session," one of the officers told me, "I had to ask the seniors." The administration turned a blind eye to the violence because the *Abangs* did ensure control and obedience and the *Rukun* of the sub-culture reinforced the official rules of the Pusat.

But in February last year there was a riot. The inmates were furious that the daily marching had been stopped. (Not that they loved marching, but it gave them opportunities for cigarette runs.) The police were called and six inmates were arrested.

Last October, nearly eighty products of a police "sapu" operation flooded the Pusat. Violence escalated. There were murmurs in the

Press and questions asked in the Ministry. Something had to be done.

In December, a boy was so badly injured it became a police case. "We took out the ring-leaders," Superintendent Lau said, "the so-called Council of 13, and handed them over to the police on a charge of refusing to accept treatment."

Since January several administrative changes have helped the officers to re-assert control. They used to work nine-to-five. Now they work shifts so that there are always welfare officers on the scene from 6 am to lights out at 10 pm. At night guards patrol the dormitories.

A few of the most dedicated officers, including Mr Lau, go down to the dorms at night to talk to the boys. An officer is assigned to each House and regular House meetings are held to discuss problems.

Shortage

Officers schedule counselling and plan activities without "consulting" the senior inmates. The violence has diminished.

But the culture still exists and in the dorms it still rules. "A junior can *hantun* (squeal) and the officers can *extend* us (extend the time the culprits have to stay in the Pusat). But he still has to come back to the dorm every night and face us," a Captain said.

A new entrant still gets the *starlight* treatment before he gets a house "licence". The more brutal *fall-in landas* and *blanket party* are less common, but they do exist.

An elderly Pak Cik, whose son was a light addict, heeded government advice to commit him to the Pusat.

He took his son to KKB in February, (after the time that Mr Lau says that the sub-culture had been broken and the violence stopped.)

Two weeks later the boy turned up on his

doorstep, exhausted and in tears. "His head was shaved, his body was covered in bruises and his forehead was swollen up like a balloon," Pak Haji said.

"When I went to make a police report, my son was kept in the lock-up. He is being charged in court for absconding and he may be sent to prison."

"Surprisingly, the latest batch of boys is not so aggressive," Mr Lau said. "With the drug shortage, heroin was not so potent; so their addiction is not as severe and they are easier to manage."

But the drug shortage is now over. Supply is now plentiful and cheap. If the Pusat gets an influx of hard-core or criminal addicts it could easily slip back to the old levels of violence.

This sub-culture, and the tenuous control of it exercised by the administration, is the setting against which the real task of the Pusat — rehabilitation — takes place.

The KKB Pusat is reputed to be the best of the Welfare Ministry Centres. And it probably is. Its facilities are excellent. Its setting is suitably isolated. (Unlike the Bukit Mertajam Centre, for example, which is set in a red-light district peppered with pushers.)

Most important, it is a totally drug-free environment. Staff and inmates insist that there is no *dah* in this centre and that there never has been.

Rehabilitation is in two phases. An addict committed to the centre spends one to two weeks in the KKB General Hospital detoxification unit. He is shaved bald and goes through *cold turkey*. Then, in his first six weeks in the centre, he is built up to physical health.

The boys have a strenuous daily physical training programme from 6.00 am to 7.00 am and team games in the evenings. The numerous secondary illnesses

common to addicts are dealt with at the Pusat clinic. New inmates are put into grass cutting and vegetable gardening projects.

After six weeks, the inmates begin group counselling in the afternoon and move into more senior work projects in the mornings — book binding, electrical repairs, cane furniture-making, carpentry.

"The goal is not so much to teach them skills," Mr Lau said. "Four months is not long enough for that. It is to raise their self-esteem and to give them that essential sense of satisfaction of having completed a job."

"I never wanted to give up drugs," said 23 year-old Ah Chai, who was sent to the Centre by the Police. "In the electronics project, I realised how much I could do without heroin. Before I couldn't do the smallest thing without a smoke first."

The goal of the counselling sessions is behavioural change — to alter the attitudes and personality traits which led the addict to seek a solution to his problems in drug dependence.

This has to take place within 2½ months ("I couldn't take someone off bubble-gum in that time," commented a behavioural psychologist) and with a staff who are not exactly trained for the task.

The seven welfare officers at the Pusat who run the counselling programme are graduates. They are experienced and dedicated. They obviously care about the addicts they counsel. But they have only between two and six weeks' "crash" training in counselling — and that was two years ago. In addition, Mr Lau and his deputy have been on familiarisation tours of rehabilitation centres abroad.

Will power is the phrase that recurs in inmate conversation, and they express strong

motivation to stay in the centre and stay off drugs. "Even if the fence was two feet high, we won't go out".

Will power

But they complain that counselling is "the same old thing over and over. Same questions, same old stories. We tell our problems. The officer tells us to avoid our old friends and develop our will power."

There are 20 to 25 inmates assigned to each officer who has many other duties besides counselling. "When I really want to talk to someone they are not around or they are busy."

"It takes two to three years to get off the psychological craving," explained 28-year-old Amir, who has been in the Pusat

three months.

"My thinking flirts with drugs when I sit down quietly by myself. But I can get off it easily now that my mind is strong enough to think."

The weakness of the counselling at the centre is compounded by an almost total absence of after-care when the inmates get out. A whole structure of legally compulsory after-care exists — but the experience of the three ex-inmates (see page 3) are typical.

Salvation

A busy welfare officer, with little or no training in counselling is assigned to too many ex-addicts as an after-care officer. Once the impressive looking client management forms are filled, the regular visit every

two weeks becomes little more than time for urine testing.

The four inmates interviewed in the centre expressed great anxiety about going out to face the world again, armed with nothing but will power. Most have no jobs and their family life has been soured or broken by their previous addiction. They will go back to the same neighbourhood where their old "members" hang out and drugs are easily and cheaply available.

What chance do they have? Statistically, not much. There are no definite figures on the recidivism rate from the Ministry Centres (in other words, the number of ex-addicts who go back on drugs). A reliable source within the Government puts it at 95 per

cent.

James is probably fairly typical. He went to the Pusat voluntarily — because he had come off drugs on his own for two months, but was afraid to move out of the house in case he was tempted to smoke again. He went to be cured of his psychological dependence.

When I talked to him five days after he had been released he was holed up in his house, still afraid to go out without the protection of his brother. He chain smokes, admits he is drinking heavily and looks more edgy than he did in the Pusat's closed environment.

Like four of the seven ex-addicts interviewed, he sees his salvation in yet another escape — leaving Malaysia altogether and living abroad.

Interviews with Inmates

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 23 May 81 p 3

[Article by Patrick Pillai and Halimah Todd]

[Text]

RESIDENTS of the Kuala Kubu Baru Rehabilitation Centre have initiation ceremonies, political parties, special laws, higher and lower courts, and strange forms of punishment — all this is part of a unique sub-culture created by inmates of the KKB Pusat, now in a new solidarity.

A new entrant only becomes a full fledged member of the community after going through an initiation ceremony.

Former resident Daniel, (not his real name), who spent an unsuccessful stint at the centre last year after being on marijuana and heroin for 10 years, tells the story:

"We were subjected to severe ragging on the first day. This included violence, such as punching and 'starlight treatment'.

"Starlight involves hitting a freshie on the forehead with one finger. About 10 or 15 seniors do this about 15 times each. Your forehead gets swollen.

"Sometimes freshies get punched, but this is done in such a way that no tell-tale signs are left.

"After the initiation on the first day, the freshie will begin to receive 'advice' and a lot of affection."

"He will be welcome into the group, and told the seven laws of the community. These are — don't report to the officers, respect all seniors and officers (in that order), share all possessions, don't form a clique with other freshies, don't be lazy, don't abscond and don't masturbate. (It makes a person weak, the seniors said)."

The residents even have a judicial system to see to the just administration of these laws and to mete out punishment. Freshies who form the bulk of law-breakers are brought before the high or lower court, depending on the seriousness of the offence.

Group leaders sit as judges. The penalty is usually 'starlight', push-ups or a severe scolding, Daniel says.

The "crime and punishment" continues until the freshie conforms, until he adapts to the sub-culture.

"When you finally learn to follow the rules and mix with others, you are a 'Seniors-Bone' — that means you're OK, you're one of us."

The level of seniority depends on the serial number of the new resident, with the newest res-

idents being lowest on the scale and the long standing ones high up.

At the apex of the sub-culture is the political system. Daniel says there are four political parties — Umno, Kelantan, MCA and MIC.

"Everyone joins one party, depending on his ethnicity. Each party has its own leaders with Umno leaders being the top man in the system."

Daniel does not know how the Kelantan party was formed or whether only Kelantanese are eligible to be members.

"Eventually we all move into various dormitories according to our political affiliation though the centre's staff allots each of us different dormitories, based on their own criteria.

He says there were two serious incidents during his four-and-a-half-month stay at the centre.

"One resident, who was leader of a political party at our centre, died after drinking spirit, which he had smuggled in. He had severe stomach pain but did not report it for fear of being found out. When he was eventually rushed to hospital it was too late.

"A few others who drank the spirit went really pale. Luckily, the officials at the centre acted swiftly and sent all of them for treatment. They all came through.

"All the other residents were also sent for a thorough check-up, just in case."

Daniel recalls his stay

at the centre with some nostalgia. He enjoyed the regular regime there — waking up at 6, helping with chores, learning a trade, playing games and the company of 'clean' friends.

"I was reluctant to leave, partly because I grew to like the regular pace of life and also because I feared a relapse."

His fears were confirmed, and six months after discharge, he was back on heroin.

"I tried very hard to fight it but I could not. I tried to revive my interest in music (he was once a full time musician), but failed. I did not find new friends either.

"I was stuck at home, jobless. (He did not try to

get a regular job). I soon met my old friends and got back to heroin," he said, adding, "just like 99 per cent of those who were discharged at the same time as me."

"But four and a half months is too short. We need a minimum of two years at the centre to kick the habit. This will also give us more time to learn a useful trade and find a job," he said.

He would like to see better recreational facilities including more outings especially in the later stages of a resident's stay.

Daniel says the staff at the centre were on the whole 'OK'. "Some were very bossy, and some others very kind,"

JAMES came out of the Pusat a week ago. He is a graduate who held down an executive job until he lost it through heroin. He has a very supportive family and he entered the Pusat voluntarily. He was a leader (Assistant Captain) in the sub-culture, but a thorn in the side of the officers.

"I had my front tooth knocked out with a broom my first day and was beaten until my shirt was soaked in blood. But that is the 'adat'. You just have to take it.

"They break you down to zero — and then they give you a cigarette and say: Who will help you if you fall sick? Officers don't come here at night. Only your abangs can help you.

"If anybody asked me if they should go into the Pusat I would say 'Go'. It's a good programme.

Everything is there — soap, even hot water. But the best thing about it is you are in a drug-free environment and you have time to think about how heroin has wasted your life.

"But the whole situation depends on what kind of boys are in there at the time. My group did not believe in too much violence so I never gave to any junior what I got from my seniors."

(James described how the violence diminished but he claims full credit for it for his group of seniors. He refuses to admit that administrative changes had anything to do with the improvements.)

"Our adat was just starlights and threats to frighten them into obedience. We discipline the juniors — make them have their bath, get up

for P.T. Which addict is going to get out of bed at 6.00 am unless you frighten him into it?

"But if they break the rules persistently and push us too far then we give them a 'fall-in tandas' or 'blanket party'.

"It has a point you know. Addicts are rock-headed. And you get tough characters coming in. We say: 'Outside you're a Tai Koh; in here you're a mouse.'

"I was in a group counselling session of 13 people. The thing is you tell your story. It took two months for each of us to 'tell our story' (mostly lies anyway) and then it was time to leave the Pusat. So it's a nil result."

Mostly lies

"There was one useful session at the end when we talked about how to

react in situations we would meet outside — to people's questions and suspicions. But most of these problems I discussed with a close friend, not with the officer.

"Five of us came out last week. We were sent to the KKB bus stop and put on the bus to K.L. Two of us made it to K.L. I can't speak for the other three but I think they went off to smoke.

"The Welfare Office was closed when I got back so I went to report the next Tuesday. The after-care officer was on leave. I was told to come back in two more weeks.

"They spend so much on the Pusat — the amenities are the best. And then they just leave you on the street. They don't help you get a job. Just imagine, if I didn't have my family to help me."

TECK CHUAN, 22 years old, became an addict before he was 18. He spent four months in the Pusat — his second stint in rehabilitation. He has been "clean" since he came out and is working. He is highly intelligent and articulate.

"Once we were in one of their so-called counseling sessions and the officer said: 'O.K. I'll be open with you about my problem and you be open with me about yours.' Then he said: 'I'm worried about my promotion.'

"What meaning does that have to a guy who is shaking because he has to go out next week onto the same streets, the same friends, the same pushers in every corner? And he's in a panic, because he doesn't know how he is going to cope?

"Then they keep telling you 'you must have will power.' But how do you do that?

"I'll tell you what we do in this Pusat. There is nothing productive going on. I enjoyed the book-binding but it's no use outside. How many jobs are there for making cane furniture? Why don't they teach us typing or welding?

"In the projects, cutting grass, making cane furniture and so on — all we think about and talk about is cigarettes. How to get them, how to get the money to get them, who shares them and where to smoke them. That is the preoccupation of everybody in the Pusat.

Tai Kohs

"My mother died while I was in the Pusat. You know what I thought,

about all through the funeral? How to get money for cigarettes, to take back, or I would get beaten.

"I was in the MCA of course. Almost all the Chinese in there are gangsters (in fact, one of the MCA rules is 'leave all outside allegiances at

the gate') and we talk endlessly about the glamour of life outside — the gangs, the prostitutes. Our heroes are the gang. Tai Kohs. Our biggest hero was Botak Chin.

"And especially we talk about drugs — prices, syndicates, supply routes, quality, which cops to avoid because they are straight, which cops you don't have to worry about. If you don't know everything about drugs when you go in, you know when you get out.

"We are clean, you understand. Nearly everybody wants to stay clean. But the psychological craving is still there. Inmates talk about the 'last backing' — that means one good smoke when you get out. The last smoke. After that they think they can stay clean forever.

"Violence? We are cooped up for four months doing nothing much. Violence and cigarettes are the only outlets. (Teck Chuan then told the same story as all other ex-addicts interviewed: Brutal initiation beatings, organization of the inmates into Umno, MCA, etc, their rigid hierarchy based on seniority, court hearings for offences against the group's code and standard punishments — starlight and blanket parties.)

Last backing

"The officers knew what was going on. But they never came down to the Houses after dinner. They didn't want the hassle.

"We were taught how to answer. The Tai Koh told us that if an officer asked about our faces we were to answer that we fell in the toilet. The officers would come up to us at Fall-in and look at the bruises and say: 'So you fell in the toilet, huh?'

"But the Tai Kohs in my time were pretty level headed. I heard it got worse when the 'sapu' group went in there."

After-care:

"We were taken by car from KKB to the Welfare Ministry offices in Kuala Lumpur. Then a guy gives you a date to come in to have your urine tested, then shakes your hand and gives you a look, like he won't be surprised if you don't turn up.

"If you don't turn up they write a few times to your last address. Close file.

"My family sent me to Penang to keep me away from my old friends. I wrote to the Pusat to tell them where I was and they wrote to Butterworth Welfare Office to give me after-care.

"I rang that officer many times (mostly because I wanted help to get a job). He was never in his office after 9 a.m. When I did get him he kept saying my file hadn't arrived yet.

"He never tested me for urine even once. He gave me no counselling. He gave me no help to find a job."

How To Improve Conditions

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 23 May 81 p 3

[Text]

ALL those interviewed had suggestions on how the Pusat could be improved. Here is a summary of what they said:

● **SEPARATE** the criminal addicts from those who are there voluntarily. This is already being planned by the Welfare and Home Affairs Ministries.

Placement

● **HAVE** a transitional programme of two months between the Centres and the after-care programme, consisting of some kind of semi-residential place in the city from which the ex-addict can go to work if he has a job or continue job training begun in the centres. This training must be in a relevant trade in which he can get a job easily.

● **AFTER-CARE** must consist of counselling, not just urine tests, and be followed through for two years. It should include job placement and family counselling.

● **THE** Ministry should train an elite corps of qualified full-time counsellors for drug addicts and have them run the Centres and the after-care. General welfare officers should not be in charge of these programmes.

● **LET** the inmates of the centres buy and smoke cigarettes. The craving for cigarettes is the source of most of the deviant behaviour in the Centres.

● **TRY** to turn the strong group ethos which exists among the inmates into an anti-drug ethos, as exists in some of the private centres.

CSO: 5300/8349

MALAYSIA

BRIEFS

OPIUM DEN RAIDED--Kuala Lumpur narcotics officers seized approximately 12 kg of raw opium valued at M\$ 89,000 in a raid on an opium den located off Jalan Chow Kit yesterday. The den had been under surveillance for about 2 weeks following a tip-off. They also found five bottles of prepared opium and several slabs of morphine weighing 3/4 of a kg. In the past 2 weeks the narcotics unit has arrested 59 persons on suspicion of narcotics possession and has seized 136 grams of heroin. [Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 12 May 81 p 6]

SENTENCE UPHELD--The Federal Court in Kuala Lumpur has dismissed an appeal by Kam Eng Chuan, a Thai national. He had been sentenced to life imprisonment and eight strokes of the rattan for drug trafficking. On 24 February 1981 the Alor Star High Court found him guilty of trafficking in 7,165 grams of cannabis at the railway station in Padang Besar, Kangar on 5 June 1978. Kam said that the police had not told the truth and that the drugs were not found in his possession. He was told by the chief justice that he was lucky to have received a life sentence. [Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 13 May 81 p 2]

HEROIN SENTENCE--Razak bin Said, 22, a laborer, was sentenced to 1-1/2 months in jail by the Malacca Sessions Court when he plead guilty to having a tube of heroin in his possession at a shopping center in Malacca on 1 April 1981. [Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 13 May 81 p 2]

POSSESSION OF HEROIN--Tan Soon Fatt, 26, was sentenced to 2 years in jail by the Magistrate's Court in Kluang after he plead guilty to possessing two tubes of heroin on 13 February 1981. The offence occurred in Kluang. Tan has two previous convictions. In another case, Lai Sin Seng, 30, was sentenced to 15 months in jail after he admitted being in possession of three tubes of heroin at a bus station in Kluang on 30 January 1981. [Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 14 May 81 p 8]

LIFE SENTENCE--The Ipoh Sessions Court has sentenced Yee Kim Meng, 23, a tractor driver, to life imprisonment and four strokes of the rattan. Yee plead guilty to trafficking in 248.85 grams of heroin on 14 April 1981 at a house in Ampang New Village, Ipoh. His father, Yee Fong Kwai, 58, a mine laborer, brothers Yee Chong Meng, 17, and Yee Yoon Meng, 15, both masons, and sister Yee Lye Kuan, 16, were discharged when the prosecution withdrew the charge against them. The prosecutor told the court that a police party and police dog raided the house, and that the dog sniffed out 78 plastic packets of narcotics hidden in the house. All five members of the family were then arrested. [Kuala Lumpur NEW SUNDAY TIMES in English 24 May 81 p 11]

TRAFFICKING IN OPIUM--Ho It Chiang, 70, has been sentenced to life imprisonment by the Sessions Court in Ipoh for trafficking in opium. He admitted trafficking in 1,501 grams of prepared opium and 1,546 grams of raw opium at a house in Kampung Baru in Port Weld on 27 January 1981. The prosecutor told the court that when a police party raided the house they found opium smoking utensils on a raised platform occupied by Ho and two other persons, and opium concealed under the floor. Defense counsel told the court that Ho was a victim of a change in circumstances, as he possessed a license to smoke opium that was issued during the colonial period. Investigations showed that Ho had used the house as an opium den. [Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 26 May 81 p 7]

CSO: 5300/8347

NEW ZEALAND

MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO CONSPIRING TO IMPORT HEROIN

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 9 Jun 81 p 4

[Text]

A Papatoetoe man was given money by a co-accused to buy heroin and morphine overseas for importation into New Zealand, the Auckland District Court heard yesterday.

The man, whose name was suppressed by Judge Augusta Wallace until further order of the court, pleaded guilty to three joint charges of conspiring to import heroin and importing morphine. The charges named two further men and a woman.

The defendant was committed in custody until June 19 to appear then in the High Court for sentence.

False Documents

The Crown prosecutor, Mr Stuart Grieve, told the court that in January of this year the defendant was given instructions about an overseas trip to Singapore and Bangkok to arrange the purchase of about one kilogram of heroin.

It was decided the defendant would travel with false documents and he was given a large amount of cash.

On arriving at Sydney the defendant's baggage was found to contain \$12,000. He flew on to Singapore but failed to meet his contact. He decided to go on to Bangkok as previously arranged.

He arrived on February 9 and was seen meeting a person on a number of occasions, Mr Grieve said.

Financial Disaster

The defendant's baggage was checked when he returned to Singapore. It contained \$2000 but no drugs.

Mr Grieve said that in Bangkok the defendant had given his contact \$6000 to buy heroin, but the deal never materialised. He decided to return to New Zealand empty handed, but had given some money to an associate who was to have helped in getting the drug into this country.

The Bangkok trip was, he

said, a financial disaster, and he was told to make a further trip to recover some of the loss.

It was decided he would go to Bombay. A female associate known to the organiser of the trips had already been sent there to sample heroin for purity.

Morphine Bought

The defendant and the woman met in Bombay and a kilogram of heroin was bought, but when he arrived back in New Zealand the defendant had no narcotics in his possession.

In April, said Mr Grieve, the defendant again returned to Bombay. He made contact with an Indian taxi driver and 800 grams of morphine was bought. This was put into talcum and foot-powder tins.

On arrival at Sydney airport on the return journey, the defendant went to a certain toilet. He had been told to unscrew a ceiling panel, place the containers inside and leave them there. He knew the morphine would be uplifted a short time later.

He knew it had since arrived in this country.

CS01 5320

PAKISTAN

BRIEFS

HASHISH SEIZED--Karachi, Pakistan, June 21 (AP)--Customs officials seized 1,456 kilograms of hashish valued at over 14 million U.S. dollars on the black market in an anti-smuggling operation on Saturday. According to an official statement, the hashish was to be smuggled out by boat to the Gulf. no arrests have been made so far. [Text] [Taipei THE CHINA POST in English 22 Jun 81 p 6]

HASHISH RECOVERED--Karachi, 4 July--The customs drug inforcement staff has recovered 2,000 kg of hashish from the seabed near Layhri Creek. Its price in the international market is estimated at 200 million rupees. [GF071903 Karachi JANG in Urdu 5 Jul 81 p 12]

FOREIGNER WITH HEROIN HELD--An Algerian national identified as Hasnani Dhanari was hauled up for carrying 2,500 grams of un-out heroin powder at the Karachi Airport yesterday. The Staff of the Directorate of Intelligenece and Investigation (Customs and Excise) found the contraband hidden in a suitcase. According to the Directorate sources he was proceeding to Zurich when intercepted on a spy information. The value of the heroin in the underworld market was stated to be over 20 million. Further investigations are continuing. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 25 Jun 81 p 10]

CSO: 5300

BRAZIL

ETHER, ACETONE FOR COCAINE DISTILLERY SEIZED IN RIO

Equipment Seized, Gang Members Arrested

Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 21 May 81 p 12

[Text] Working with the Military Police and Narcotics Bureau, the Federal Police this week confiscated more than 500 liters of ether and acetone as well as funnels and paper filters from a firm in Rio; the intention was to restock the cocaine distillery discovered on 13 May in Papucaia, a part of the municipality of Cachoeira de Macacu, and belonging to an international gang.

The material was stored at the Kwikasair Company, located at 1322 Rua Otranto in Parada de Lucas. The ether, acetone and distillery equipment were being stored on behalf of a Colombian, Jairo Gonzalez Gutierrez, arrested as a member of the gang which was handling the cocaine traffic connection between Cali (Colombia) and Miami (United States) via Rio.

The material, shown to the press yesterday afternoon, had been ordered by Jairo from a firm called Analitica Artigos de Laboratorio Ltda, located at 1346 Rua Conselheiro Furtado in Sao Paulo.

During the same investigation, called by the police "Colombian operation", the police seized in a machine shop on Rua da Passagem in Botafogo a Dodge Charger RT, license plate RJ SR 4285, belonging to Guilherme Teshima Perez, another member of the gang also arrested last week. The car was being equipped with a false bottom to transport the basic cocaine paste which was to come from Colombia to Papucaia.

The Gang

The narcotics gang was discovered through the alertness of a guard working for a small aeroclub in the municipality of Monte Aprazivel in Sao Paulo. The guard became suspicious when he saw foreigners milling about a single-engine plane which had just landed on 13 May, and he notified the police.

The police searched the area and arrested five members of the gang, but the pilot, who was bringing 20 kg of cocaine from Colombia, succeeded in taking off with most of the drug with him. The police confiscated only 1.9 kg which was in the false bottom of a car intended to carry the shipment to Rio.



Federal Police headquarters. Liters of ether and acetone confiscated.

Those arrested at the aeroclub were the Colombians Gustavo Adolfo Messias Medina, Jairo Gonzalez Gutierrez, Jose Maria Ortiz Binilla and Guilherme Teshima Perez and a Brazilian, Tania Maria Fiuza Cerqueira, all of whom admitted that the international gang was in operation.

Through information given by those arrested, police in Rio also arrested Colombians Humberto Antonio Jimenez and Walter Giraldo Ospina in an apartment at 245 Avenida Nossa Senhora de Copacabana and discovered the gang's distillery in Papucaia.

Much Money

According to members of the Federal Police Superintendency in Rio, the Papucaia distillery was part of a millionaire operation set up by international traffickers with branches in Brazil. They estimate that more than 20 million cruzeiros was invested in setting up the clandestine laboratory.

"This is not counting expenditures for vehicles, ships and planes, not yet seized", one of them commented.

During the investigations made up to now, the Federal Police Superintendency in Sao Paulo discovered another shipment of ether which was to be sent to Rio to supply the distillery. According to the police, this shipment was to be 900 liters.

In addition to ether, acetone and pure cocaine, police in Papucaia seized hydrochloric acid, sulfuric acid, test tubes, scales, sieves, filters, plastic pails and drying lamps.

"It was a setup capable of producing more than 10 kg of cocaine per week, depending on the quantity and purity of the raw material", a police officer said.

Igarata Operation

Also working with the Military Police and the Narcotics Bureau, the Federal Police arrested six drug traffickers of Jorge Neguinho's gang at the Muquico favela [shantytown] in Marechal Hermes.

In this operation, given the name "Igarata", the police confiscated a 250-gram cake of marihuana and a number of packets already prepared for sale at outlets arranged by Jorge Neguinho, considered by the police to be the favela's biggest trafficker.

The arrest of the traffickers was the result of an anonymous tip advising that there was much drug trafficking activity at the rear of 34 Rua Igarata. At this address the police arrested Paulo Cesar Ana, Roberto de Almeida Lopes, Moacir Paixao Delfim, Evandro Vitorino, Henry Correa dos Santos and Elcio Martins.

Plane Impounded

Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 15 Jun 81 p 4

[Text] Porto Velho--Federal Police Deputy Joao Ribeiro das Chagas confirmed yesterday that a twin-engine plane was impounded last Thursday in Guajara Mirim; the aircraft, operating on the Cali-Rio-Miami route, was piloted by Esli de Freitas and was carrying 12.5 kg of cocaine at the time of its seizure.

Suspensions were aroused when Esli requested authorization to land at that airport and no twin-engine plane was expected that day. Major Oliveira Neves then requested emergency measures for the plane and contacted the Federal Police who found 12.5 kg of cocaine under the pilot's seat and arrested Esli.

The local Federal Police informed headquarters in Brasilia where it was ascertained that Esli had escaped from Monte Aprazivel on 12 May absconding with the twin-engine plane. He had got rid of 7.5 kg of cocaine in that city, delivering it to his accomplices, all since arrested.

Search

The twin-engine plane had been sought since that date when the police had begun to break up the gang responsible for the cocaine traffic on the Cali-Miami-Rio route. The aircraft, coming from Colombia, was carrying three Colombians--Jairo Gonzalez Gutierrez, Gustavo Adolfo Mejia and Jose Maria Ortiz--and 20 kg of cocaine paste. Only part of the merchandise was unloaded at the time.

The watchman at the Monte Aprazivel aeroclub was suspicious of the unidentified foreigners and contacted the police who, upon arrival, found no trace of the drug. The three had taken 7.5 kg of cocaine from the aircraft and hidden it in the false bottom of a small boat fastened to the roof of a Caravan WP-7930 from Rio and owned by Tania Mara Cerqueira Fiuza da Rocha. She and her companion, Guilherme Teshimo Perez, also Colombian, were awaiting the shipment to take it to Rio. All were arrested, but Esli managed to escape with the twin-engine plane and the rest of the shipment.

Yesterday, Esli admitted to having been hired by Jairo Gutierrez to transport the cocaine for \$5,000. He also said that after taking off from Monte Aprazivel he flew by way of Tres Lagoas in Mato Grosso do Sul, refueled the plane and continued to Rondonia. Judge Antonio Carlos Andreotti of the Monte Aprazivel judicial district ordered the pilot's arrest as a precautionary measure and requested that he be taken to the city to be included in the investigation already underway.

8568

CSO: 5300/2372

BRAZIL

TWO ARRESTED IN POSSESSION OF COCAINE, COUNTERFEIT MONEY

Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 21 May 81 p 12

[Text] Two Minas Gerais natives from Governador Valadares--businessman Hamilton Sa Vidanes, age 24, and his employee, Edgard Coutinho, 26--were arrested yesterday morning on Washington Luis Highway; they had in their possession 143,000 cruzeiros in counterfeit money, 12 bags of cocaine, a packet of marihuana, an unloaded Beretta pistol, Bolivian, Colombian and Chilean pesos, Luxembourg francs, Venezuelan bolivars and Dutch guilders.



Businessman Hamilton
Vidanes



Edgard Coutinho,
employee

Hamilton and Edgard said they were on their way to Rio to have repairs made to the Berline YR-3686 purchased by the businessman and still in the name of Antonio Delcio Fulgencio da Cunha.

According to them, the counterfeit money and drugs were acquired in a transaction involving the sale of jewels negotiated with a tall, balding, slightly gray-haired homosexual who had purchased two watches and a ring from them, all in gold, at the Barril 1800 restaurant in Ipanema.

The Arrest

A unit of the 17th Military Police Battalion was making a routine Para-Pedro run in front of the Safari Hotel on Washington Luis Highway and stopped the Berline YR-3686 being driven by Hamilton.

In searching the car, the police found the counterfeit money, the foreign currencies, the drugs and an additional 49,540 cruzeiros which the 22d precinct said was "legal currency without, however, sending it to the Carlos Eboli Institute for examination".

Hamilton and the employee said that Tuesday evening they went to the Barril 1800 in Ipanema to drink beer. Almost penniless, they decided to pawn a ring and two watches--a Beau Mercier and a Rolex in gold--to be able to return to Governador Valadares the next day.

They were in the bar when the homosexual appeared and began to chat. He offered 12 packets of cocaine and 1 of marihuana at 700 cruzeiros per packet. According to Hamilton and Edgard, the same unknown person then arranged to have someone buy the jewelry for 250,000 cruzeiros of which he paid 240,000, "discounting the money for the drugs".

The police do not believe their story but will investigate the identity of the man who passed them the counterfeit money and drugs. Meanwhile, Hamilton and Edgard will remain in jail, since they were caught red-handed.

8568

CSO: 5300/2372

BRAZIL

BRIEFS

YOUTHS ARRESTED WITH LSD--In a joint operation yesterday evening, agents of the Federal Police and Military Police arrested three 21-year-old youths at 75 Rua Murtinho Nobre in Santa Teresa; they had 150 doses of LSD in their possession at the time. The three were identified as Felipe Novaes de Souza, Carlos Fernandes Viana and Marcia Cosme Lopes da Silva. The police--who comprise the so-called Comando Uno, a group whose purpose is to suppress the trafficking and use of narcotics and toxicants--believe they have one more element from the gang of traffickers. [Text] [Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 13 Jun 81 p 13] 8568

CSO: 5300/2372

MEXICO

HEROIN TRAFFICKER ATTEMPTS SHOOTOUT WITH POLICE

Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 12 Jun 81 p 10-A

[Text] A drug trafficker tried to gun down Federal Judicial Police agents who succeeded in arresting him in Nuevo Laredo, Tamaulipas.

Gen Raul Mendiolea Zerecero, chief of the unit, reported that when police were enforcing a warrant for the arrest of Juan Antonio Cantu Gomez, he reacted violently and drew his gun, threatening the police.

There are three lawsuits pending against Cantu Gomez for public health offenses and violation of municipal law (poultry farming and drug trafficking) and assault and battery in Nuevo Laredo, Tamaulipas.

Without a single shot being fired, Cantu Gomez was apprehended by the police, who immediately disarmed him and brought him before the district judge of Nuevo Laredo, Tamaulipas.

The investigation continued and federal detectives established that Cantu Gomez had an accomplice, Alfredo Martinez Martinez, known in the underworld as "El Chichi" and as a paid assassin.

Federal Judicial Police agents located him at his residence in Zamano de Lopez Mateos y Gutierrez Street in Nuevo Laredo, where they found 950 grams of heroin alone, a .45-caliber magazine, another 9-mm caliber magazine and 19 .22 cartridges.

The investigation remained open until the establishment of the whereabouts of "Chichi," who apparently hoped to escape from the police.

11915

CSO: 5300/2377

MEXICO

MARIHUANA USE AMONG YOUTHS INCREASES

Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 7 Jun 81 p 6

[Article by Yolanda Garcia]

[Text] The head of the Mass Media Unit of the Juvenile Integration Centers [CIJ], Marcela Sodi, said yesterday that marihuana consumption among Mexican youth is becoming more alarming every day. She noted that this drug is unfortunately more accepted by young people in our country.

Marcela Sodi said that more than 30 percent of CIJ patients, a high percentage of whom are between 16 and 20 years old, consume large amounts of the drug.

She said that most of the time they first smoke marihuana in order to gain access to a group of friends, but entering the world of marihuana through simple experimentation easily leads a young person to drug addiction and psychological dependence on the drug.

Curing drug addiction is difficult, especially when the final stage of the addiction process has been reached. Marcela Sodi said that adolescents, and especially children, should therefore be advised of the serious risks and dangers involved in starting the terrible drug game.

She pointed out that because of its acceptance among youth, there is no doubt that marihuana is the drug consumed most in Mexico, which suggests an ominous future for the country, since a young person consuming marihuana harms not only his own physical and mental health, but that of his children as well, and they are the ones who will be responsible for future decades.

Marcela Sodi said that loss of coordination of the extremities and the inability to remember recent events are some of the harmful effects of marihuana.

Larger doses may also lead to toxic psychosis and paranoia. Recent studies in particular have shown that marihuana affects the spermatazoa of users, causing the chromosomes, which transmit the genetic information, to break up.

Marcela Sodi therefore pointed out that addiction to this drug is doubly dangerous, since not only does it harm the health of the individual, but that of future generations as well.

11915

CSO: 5300/2377

MEXICO

OPIUM GUM DEALERS ARRESTED

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 9 Jun 81 p 8-D

[Text] A drug trafficking ring composed of seven men and three women and operating in Culiacan, Sinaloa, buying and selling large amounts of opium gum, has been arrested by the Federal Judicial Police.

Federal agents were aware that this group was involved in drug trafficking, but had been unable to arrest them because the activities of their members could not be proven.

Pantaleon Amarillas Macias, Magdalena Larea Arena, Zenon Amarillas Macias, Manuel Alvarez Gaxiola, Gervasio Alvarez Baca, Reyes Amarillas Parras, Brigida Teran Chavez, Jose Tomas Duarte Rodriguez, Gerardo Carrillo Arredondo and Maclovia Lopez Cardenas were apprehended in the act of processing 1,258 grams of opium gum. The Office of the Attorney General of the Republic reported that the Federal Judicial Police had learned that this ring was scheduled to make an opium gum purchase for more than 20 million pesos. The assumed purchasers were placed under surveillance, but it is believed that there was a police leak and the sellers did not show up to complete the operation.

The aforementioned persons were arrested in a clandestine laboratory in Culiacan, Sinaloa, where it was learned that they had previously prepared not only opium gum, but doses of heroin as well, which were sold in that city's centers of nighttime activity.

11915
CSO: 5300/2377

MEXICO

PGR BURNS PSYCHOTROPICS, OTHER DRUGS

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 9 Jun 81 p 8-D

[Text] Narcotics and psychotropic drugs worth more than 50 million pesos were burned yesterday by the Secretariat of Health and Assistance [SSA] and the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic [PGR].

The drugs were burned in SSA furnaces located at the 57-km mark of the Mexico City-Queretaro highway, near San Miguel de los Jagueyes, state of Mexico.

Among other drugs, 227 packages and 245 boxes containing 1,771 kg of marihuana, 118 kg of opium-base preparations, 24 kg of hashish, 3,281 specimens of synthetic opiates, and 48 opium alkaloid derivatives and pharmaceutical preparations were incinerated. It was reported that these drugs were confiscated in the Federal District and in the state of Mexico and turned over to federal courts, which in turn handed them over to the SSA.

It was noted that if these drugs had been consumed by our youth, for whom most of them were intended, the result would have been irreversible damage, including death due to overdose.

The Federal Public Ministry, SSA officials and representatives of various news media were present when the drugs were burned.

Attorney Pilar Rojas Rojas, the PGR representative, witnessed the event and made out the respective official report.

11915

CSO: 5300/2377

PERU

BRIEFS

COCAINE SEIZED IN LIMA--Lima, 3 Jun (DPA)--Peruvian police arrested Cuban political refugee Octavio Gonzalez Macuran (28), surprising him yesterday in the act of selling cocaine paste to some Lima schoolchildren. The Cuban, who arrived in Lima last year following the mass granting of political asylum at the Peruvian Embassy in Havana, has a police record. He was confined for the last 8 months in a Lima jail for robbing and assaulting a pedestrian. A police spokesman commented that he had been paroled not long ago and is now back in jail, accused of illegal drug trafficking and corruption of minors. Residing in Lima are 450 Cubans who arrived in April 1980, and another 120 in March, as tourists and who refused to return to Cuba. In connection with other events, Peruvian Foreign Affairs Minister Javier Arias Stella described the impending official visit of Brazilian President Joao Baptista Figueiredo, scheduled for this month, as "historic." He added that it will represent an important milestone in strengthening relations between the two countries. All details concerning the Brazilian president's activities in Lima are meanwhile being finalized. A mission of the Brazilian Ministry of Foreign Affairs established initial contact yesterday with the Peruvian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Lima to approve Figueiredo's schedule of activities. Among other activities, a series of talks with Peruvian president Fernando Belaunde Terry, a visit to the Peruvian Congress and the signing of a joint Peruvian-Brazilian declaration are scheduled. The Brazilian president's visit to Peru will take place from 24 to 27 June. [Text] [Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 4 Jun 81 p 14] 11915

CSO: 5300/2375

VENEZUELA

COCAINE SEIZED FROM BOLIVIAN COUPLE

Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 9 Jun 81 p D-16

[Article by Antonio Martin; photographs by Cesar Trujillo]

[Text] A Bolivian couple was arrested with 9 kg of very pure cocaine, valued at more than 4 million bolivares, at Maiquetia's Simon Bolivar International Airport.

The drug traffickers were identified as 26-year-old Magdaluz Antelo de Torrico, employed as a domestic, and 34-year-old Alejandro Perez Mendez, a mechanic. Both are Bolivian citizens and it is believed that they were being used as "mules" (only transporting the drug) in the service of an international drug trafficking ring.

The couple arrived in Maiquetia at 0530 on Bolivian Air Lines flight 902 and were met by detectives of the PTJ [Judicial Technical Police] Interpol and Drug Investigation Division.

The packages of cocaine, well wrapped in brown and white plastic bags, were carried by the woman in a handbag hanging from her shoulder. Her companion carried other luggage containing the couple's belongings. Magdaluz Antelo, wearing a tailored yellow dress, gave herself away immediately by her nervousness upon debarking.

Also caught in the PTJ raid on the drug traffickers was a 31-year-old Viasa employee identified as Leoncio Roberto Guardia Pedrique, employed at the airport as a flight dispatcher for the Venezuelan airline and who is the person who would receive cargo to be removed from the Maiquetia airport installations.

Commissioner Maximiliano Lopez Araujo, chief of the PTJ Interpol and Drug Investigation Division, stated that the arrest of these traffickers was the culmination of tough investigative work carried out jointly with the Bolivian Interpol.

Commissioner Lopez Araujo said that Venezuelan police had learned from Bolivian police that two Bolivian citizens were trying to smuggle cocaine into Caracas.

The origin of these 9 kg of cocaine has not been confirmed, although it is most likely that they were processed in Bolivia, one of the countries with the highest cocaine production, from where it is generally exported to North American countries such as the United States and Canada, where 1 kg is valued at approximately \$60,000.

Venezuela is not a country that consumes a large amount of cocaine (in comparison to northern countries), but a high consumption of marihuana and mandrax tablets has been recorded. These latter drugs are generally consumed in low-income sectors and in jails. Cocaine is sold and consumed in sectors with incomes above 4,000 bolivares.

The drugs most used in the country are marihuana, mandrax and cocaine. The first two are generally exported from Colombia, while cocaine may come from Colombia, Peru or Bolivia.

The base paste from which cocaine is prepared comes from Bolivia or Peru (cocaine sulfate) and is then purified in the same countries or taken to Colombia, where the chemical process is completed.

The paste is obtained by crushing coca leaves. About 100 kg of leaves ultimately yield 1 kg of very pure cocaine, approximately 90 percent pure. The entire process of converting the coca leaves into pure cocaine takes place in clandestine laboratories known as "kitchens." These laboratories are generally located in very safe isolated or mountainous areas and are characteristically abandoned immediately after processing a certain amount of the drug. This cocaine hydrochlorate paste contains many impurities, thus its price is less than that of the final processed material. The price of the purified cocaine depends on the market and the buyer. In Bogota, depending on certain factors, 1 kg may cost between \$18,000 and \$20,000 (about 100,000 bolivares). In Venezuela, 1 kg of cocaine costs 200,000 bolivares (1 gram: 200 bolivares). Purity depends on the dealer, since distributors adulterate or mix it with other substances to obtain higher profits. From 1 kg of pure cocaine, traffickers obtain approximately 3 to 4 kg. Mixtures are made with lactose, Mebipecaine and with amphetamines in the United States.

The price of the drug continues to rise every time it crosses a border, with everything that this involves: transport (mules), bribery, police surveillance. As a result, the price of 1 kg of cocaine in the United States is approximately \$60,000 (250,000 bolivares) and, after mixing, may reach 750,000 (divided into three parts) or 1 million bolivares, with a purity of between 25 and 30 percent.

The best "kitchens" are found in apartments in Bogota and laboratories are dismantled the day after completing the process. There are also good laboratories in Medellin and Barranquilla. The "cooks" are rudimentary chemists who have acquired experience, with some of them becoming experts and giving their product a certain "bouquet," which identifies them among drug traffickers.

Detectives of the Drug Investigation Division questioned the three persons arrested to establish the traffickers' identities in the country and to find out the exact origin of this 9-kg cargo confiscated yesterday morning.



Leoncio Roberto Guardia Pe-
drique,

Magdaluz Antelo de Torrico,

Alejandro Pérez Méndez.

Leoncio Roberto Guardia Pedrique, Viasa employee, arrested.
(Photo: PTJ)

Magdaluz Antelo de Torrico, Bolivian, arrested.
(Photo: PTJ)

Alejandro Perez Mendez, Bolivian, arrested.
(Photo: PTJ)

11915
CSO: 5300/2375

NIGERIA

MOTION ON HEMP REFERRED TO COMMITTEES

Lagos DAILY TIMES in English 18 Jun 81 p 23]

[Text]

A MOTION, seeking to ask the National Assembly to make law reverting the Indian Hemp Decree of 1975 to its 1966 form, has been referred to three committees of the Anambra State House of Assembly.

Mr. B. C. N. Okeke (Awka South), who sponsored the motion, said that the lesser punishment prescribed by the 1975 amendment had encouraged more hemp smokers in the country.

According to him, it was easier nowadays for hemp smokers to bribe their way out of police net or even pay the N200 fine in court, only to continue their illicit trade afterwards.

He claimed that the 1966 Decree, which prescribed a minimum penalty of 10 years' imprisonment, was more a deterrent than the 1975 amendment which prescribed only six months' penalty for convicted hemp smokers.

Mr. Okeke further said that if the country must curb armed robbery and road accidents, it should start from the roots by legislating against hemp smoking and

peddling, with severe punishment.

Supporting the motion, Mr. S. O. Didigu (Igbo Etiti West), said that maximum punishment was desirable for hemp smokers, because they constituted a menace to the social order.

In his own view, Mr. G. R. Okoye said that the decree was amended to enable magistrates prosecute hemp cases.

He said that under normal circumstances, hemp cases should be handled by magistrates. But considering the 10 to 50 years jail term prescribed by the 1966 decree, there were many hemp cases pending in the High Courts.

In order to decongest the courts, Mr. Okoye said, it became necessary to amend the decree, prescribing lesser punishment within the scope of the magistrate's courts.

He also said that it would be wrong to think that severer punishment could deter intending criminals.

Rather, he held that it was public education and good culture, that could improve the society.

CSO: 5300/4960

SWAZILAND

REPORTAGE ON DISPOSITION OF 'MANDRAX' CASES

South Africans Fined

Mbabane THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND in English 22 Jun 81 p 1

[Text]

THE MANDRAX trial of two South Africans, Mr. Ephraim and Mrs. Fatima Nusterdien, has finally been concluded and resulted in their conviction.

The couple have been sentenced by Mbabane Senior Magistrate, Mr. J.A.M. Khumalo, to a fine of E90 or 120 days imprisonment each. They were charged for being found in possession of about 75,000 tablets of the drug, Mandrax, early this year.

Delivering his judgement, Mr. Khumalo told the accused that it is no excuse to go into a country, even on transit basis, in possession of a large quantity of articles which

are illegal in that country. Mr. Khumalo's statement was in response to the Defence's contention that the two people's intention was not to defy the laws of this country when they came in with the tablets.

Mr. B.A. Dlamini, who submitted this statement, told the court that the two ~~were not brought to South Africa~~. He said, further that in this respect, it would be unfair to expect anyone in transit to acquire a permit in each and every country wherein he goes to be able to carry their goods.

Presenting his case, Mr. Dlamini told the court that the defence does not dispute the fact that the tablets

found in possession of the two people were mandrax.

The basis of the defence's argument he said, is the main ingredient contained in the drugs called methaqualone, is not sufficient enough to make the pills "harmful" as was alleged in the charge sheet. He disclosed that this type of mandrax, which is manufactured in India, is not the type used internationally and which is very harmful.

As regards this, Mr. Dlamini pointed out further that it was the duty of the crown to state the correct kind of mandrax affected in this case in order to put the court in the clear as to the type of case facing it.

Mr. Khumalo told him that the quantity and quality of the drugs before court is not, in law, relevant. He said that as far as the act on which these two were charged is concerned, any person found in possession of such a drug is liable for conviction, regardless of the amount or type of drug.

Mr. Dlamini replied that the law dealing with this offence is antiquated, outdated and should be amended. "No court of law can convict on this act," he said.

Mr. Khumalo has ordered that the pills should be destroyed.

Appeal Planned

Mbabane THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND in English 23 Jun 81 p 1

[Text]

MR. EPHRAIM AND
MRS. FATIMA
NUSTERDIEN, who were
last week convicted on a
charge of being found in
possession of about 75,000
pills of Mandrax have
lodged an appeal to the
High Court against the
conviction and the sentence
imposed by Mbabane
Senior Magistrate, Mr.
J.A.M. Khumalo.

According to their Legal
Representative, Mr. B.A.
Diamini, the couple claim
that the conviction and
sentence was bad in law and
further that it was against
the evidence and the weight

of the evidence.

The couple were each
ordered to pay a fine of E90
or alternatively to serve 120
days imprisonment in
default of payment. The
tablets with which they were
caught by the police are to
be destroyed, according to
the Magistrate's order.

It has also been
established that when they
were arrested, the couple
were on transit to Mauritius
where they stay and not
South Africa, as was
reported in earlier articles.
The date on which their
appeal will be heard has not
been disclosed

Others Acquitted

Mbabane THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND in English 24 Jun 81 p 1

[Text]

MBABANE'S Senior Magi-
strate, Mr. J.A.M.
Khumalo has advised the
country's law enforcers to
practise caution in cases
where a professional
medical practitioner is
suspected of possessing or
conveying to the public,
harmful drugs.

Acquitting Dr. Eddie
Khanya and two others,
Charles Nzuzo and Mellow
Tembe on a charge of illegal
possession or conveying
mandrax tablets yesterday,
Mr. Khumalo pointed out
that a Medical Practitioner,
by reason of his profession,

has powers which enable
him to handle or convey all
sorts of drugs, including
poisonous and harmful
ones.

Mr. Khumalo
particularly made these
remarks on behalf of Dr.

Khanya. The doctor and the
other two men were
arrested and charged for
being found in possession
of 2000 tablets of Mandrax.

Mr. Khumalo has
ordered that the tables
alleged to have been found
in possession of the three
men should be destroyed.

CSO: 5300/4959

NORWAY

SOCIAL WORKER SEES HASHISH SPREADING TO NEW OSLO AREAS

Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 10 Jun 81 p 12

[Article by Brita Rosenberg: "Hash Flood Threatens New City Areas"]

[Text] (Brita Rosenberg): "It is now only a question of time before things break loose in the western area of Oslo. We know that large amounts of narcotics get into the country, and there seems to be a campaign under way to establish a market in special environments in the western section of Oslo. Drug dealing and misuse are strongly connected with school environments and have resulted in violence and terror that have created extremely difficult conditions, in particular at Hovseter school. There, a 14-year-old became rebellious and ran amok with a knife."

Child Protection Agency functionary Einar Kindberg says to AFTENPOSTEN that there was no possibility of immediately placing the student in an institution, and he was put right back in his old environment. The functionary also told of the case of a 14-year-old boy who was a professional drug pusher, with nobody being able to stop him. The Child Protection Agency is powerless when faced with violence and terror caused by narcotics addiction. Violence in the school may begin with a boy or a girl coming into a classroom with a note to the effect that a student is wanted by the principal, a so-called "false report." The student has been picked out by other students who wish to mob him, and he is given a real going over. Attempts have been made to have the student supposedly called to the principal accompanied by a teacher, but this is not always possible.

[Question] Is it by chance that drug pushers now have begun to look for customers in Oslo's western sections?

[Answer] No, increasing amounts of drugs are coming into the country, and the pushers must find new markets. In general, it can be said that housing is more scattered in the west, which makes it less obvious. It is easier to have a drug party in a villa on a lot of a couple of acres than in an apartment. Nor do young people gather as rapidly as one sees around some subway stations in the eastern section. In other words, the picture looks quite all right from the outside. But when things begin to happen the problems are great.

[Question] But is the attitude to drugs among non-users the same whether they live in the west or in the east?

[Answer] No. On the west side there is greater resistance to tackling the problem. One meets more of the attitude: "Nothing will happen to us; we are not losers." This is a dismal attitude to drugs. If things go wrong just the same, parents on the west side tend to try to solve the problem themselves. They will deny also as long as possible that the problem exists. This attitude makes it more difficult to estimate the amount of drugs in circulation and the consequences of the problem.

[Question] The eternal question: What can parents do?

[Answer] In the first place: Take a thoroughly considered attitude toward narcotics; acquaint yourself with the drug environment; talk with the childrens' friends and their parents; learn about the prevention organizations available and what activities they are engaged in, and whether organization leaders have a well thought-out attitude toward what they are doing. It is important that the organizations find a form of activity that includes as many people as possible, preferably without elements of competition. The activities should be implemented systematically, from the time the children are 6 to 7 years of age.

[Question] Without the element of competition it will perhaps be even more difficult to collect money for the empty organization treasuries?

[Answer] The fact that the organizations are broke is actually a big plus for the parents. Through their own efforts and cooperation they have the opportunity to become acquainted with other children and their parents, gain greater insight into the environment, and this will in turn provide a defense against those who are working to destroy the youth and recruit new youth for the narcotics milieu.

Parents who are aliens in their own milieu are without tools if disaster hits them. What they contribute to the organizations will be returned to them when their children become teenagers. But note that here I am talking only about organization operations. It should clearly be in society's interest that clubs which do good work among children and youth be given opportunities for active work both indoors and outdoors. It is completely wild when one hears that Oslo school authorities are considering plans for introducing fees of 100 kroner for gymnasium rentals.

[Question] Have you any new proposals for what one should be aware of to put a brake on the development?

[Answer] Stop the small scale pushers first. It is impossible for the big sharks to expand the market if they do not get help from the small pushers. We must stop considering the small pushers' activities as being of little importance. It is they who provide information on which youth seem susceptible to drugs; they are often former students who are familiar with the school environment, and their activities are essential as concerns mass distribution of drugs. If the small pushers disappear the sharks must act more openly, with greater risk of being arrested.

Be aware of strange cars circling school yards in the daytime. As a rule, they have no business there. License plate numbers should be noted and given to the

police. In this way we can contribute to limiting contact opportunities between sellers and buyers.

Parents and teachers must pay more attention to class cutting, including in the lower grades. This is often a symptom of maladjustment, and it is important to do something about it before the child reaches the teens. Then it may be too late.

[Question] And to all on the west side?

[Answer] Do not believe it cannot happen to you. This is just what can happen before you suspect anything.

Holding Campaign Not a Flash in the Pan

Hashish addiction among young people has become so prevalent that it is necessary to bring the problem up to the political level, where the authorities are responsible. This is the background to an extensive mobilization aimed at spreading information and knowledge about the danger involved in hashish misuse. The first step in the mobilization is a brochure in the form of a letter from Social Minister Arne Nilsen and Church and Education Minister Einar Forde, distributed to all youth aged 13 to 19.

The Central Council for Narcotics Problems is behind the brochure "Facts About Hashish," printed in 600,000 copies. A second brochure of the same title provides an orientation on the position adults should take with respect to the hashish problem. It has been printed in 500,000 copies, intended for parents, teachers, youth leaders, and other groups.

"Hashish is undesirable and must not be socially accepted, as the authorities have clearly stated," said the Social Minister at a press conference on Tuesday. He declared that the ministry has received positive reactions in the form of letters from young people who have received the brochure.

The campaign which is under way will deal with cannabis misuse, with special stress upon hashish. Among steps to be taken may be mentioned a program series concerning youth and drug abuse, and in the fall a number of projects will be tested on the local level.

"It must be admitted that the authorities have not spent adequate funds for preventive work," says Minister Forde, who stresses that the campaign is not a flash in the pan. The Church and Education Ministry also regards the effort as a permanent task and will prepare educational material for use in schools.

Schools are urged to use at least 1 day for a campaign against hashish. Teachers in primary and secondary schools see drug abuse as a new phenomenon and are greatly in need of information. The Ministry will provide funds for courses for teachers, to be given in cooperation with the health administration and the police.

New Action Coming

Health Director Torbjorn Mork, chairman of the Central Council for Narcotics Problems, regards the situation as serious. The authorities must make every effort to stop the flow of drugs and reduce the demand. Further, restrictive measures against prescribing habit-forming drugs must be adopted.

"The work of creating youth environments free of drugs must include offers of education, housing, and jobs," the Health Director points out, stressing that we face great problems, of both health and social nature. He states that a new action against the drug problem will be dealt with in the Central Council on 17 June. It is hoped that a proposal will be presented before the end of the month.

[Question] Do you believe the mobilization campaign will have an immediate effect?

[Answer] I believe it will contribute to a process in youth environments. This will probably be the most useful thing to come out of it.

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NORWAY

POLICE FEEL POWERLESS IN COMBATING HASHISH

Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 10 Jun 81 p 12

[Text] "I can confirm that the situation is worsening," says police officer John Chr. Grottum. He has served at the Hovseter police station for 5 or 6 years and is familiar with conditions. Many things indicate that a drug milieu is coming into being in suburbs in the western parts of the city. "A market the pushers now seem to have discovered," says Grottum.

[Question] Where are the deals made?

[Answer] I have tried to find out in various ways. The young people insist they go to the central business district to make their purchases, but we suspect that this is not so. We believe the dealing is done in the local environment, and that it is not the addicts themselves who sell drugs, but profiteers who set up shop.

It is a great problem that police surveillance in those districts has been reduced to a minimum. The entire western area of Oslo is manned by only a few patrol cars. It is impossible, of course, to carry on intensive drug surveillance by uniformed policemen in patrol vehicles.

[Question] What about the narcotics police?

[Answer] They say they have no manpower. They have so much to do with "the big boys" that they have no time for the little fish. Therefore the small scale pushers have free reign in the districts. It is paradoxical that some are arrested for addiction when they go to the center of the city to smoke hashish there, while at Hovseter, where they may have smoked perhaps hundreds of times, they are never arrested. I have said and written much about this, but there is never any reaction. Thus we, too, are rather powerless," says John Chr. Grottum.

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NORWAY

POLICE ACCUSE YOUTHS OF SMUGGLING HEROIN, HASHISH

Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 11 Jun 81 p 60

[Article by Helge Sorensen: "Six Indicted for Large Scale Heroin Smuggling"]

[Text] An account book containing detailed estimates of drug sales by two of those indicted is among the strongest proofs in a large narcotics case, prosecution of which began in Eidsivating circuit court on Wednesday. Six youths from Oslo, aged 19 to 25, are accused of having smuggled in and sold narcotics to the amount of millions from 16 February 1979 to 24 March 1980. The smuggling, done by two of those indicted, took place during trips by car to Copenhagen, where the narcotics were bought.

The two were indicted for having illegally imported to Norway 383 grams of heroin, 230 grams of amphetamines, and 1.1 kilograms of hashish. All six youths, including a girl of 19, are accused of violating Paragraph 162 of the penal code, the so-called "Prof paragraph."

Tips to the police led to the unmasking and breaking up of the drug gang now indicted. When one of the main figures of the gang was stopped by a police patrol last year he was found to have in his possession about 4 grams of heroin. In a subsequent search of his home 39 grams of heroin and 200 grams of hashish were found. The police also found about 270,000 kroner in cash hidden in a tool box. After the police had confiscated an account book containing detailed estimates and information on the Copenhagen trips, the man confessed all. Shortly afterward, his comrade was arrested. In his home the police found 67 grams of heroin, hidden under the floor of a closet.

Both of the main figures in the indictment have agreed to cooperate with the Norwegian and Danish police, and with their assistance the police have mapped the delivery link in Copenhagen.

It appears from the indictment that the two main culprits have in the course of a year made 13 smuggling trips to Copenhagen.

On Wednesday they both stated in court that during the first few trips to Copenhagen they intended only to buy hashish for their own use, but that they gradually began to buy amphetamines and heroin, easier to come by in the contacts they had.

Both admitted that they intended to sell the heroin and amphetamines in Oslo, where they had contacts and potential customers.

Most of the heroin and some amphetamines were resold to a third person of those indicted, a 23-year-old Oslo man. In total he is said to have received 285 grams of heroin for resale at prices from 4,000 to 4,750 kroner per gram. On his part, the 23-year-old sold the drugs to two others of those indicted, who are said to have paid 1.2 million kroner for the amphetamine and 216 grams of heroin.

Included in the indictment is violation of the law governing narcotics. Among other things, several of those indicted have been injection addicts, regularly using morphine and heroin. Court testimony by the two main figures on Wednesday was characterized by very poor memories. They had not the least idea of what they had paid for the heroin in Copenhagen. They admitted, however, that very good money could be made on the smuggling. In earlier questioning by the police they had hinted at 1,200 to 2,000 kroner per gram of heroin. They themselves resold the drug at more than double what they had paid.

In response to a question by Associate Judge Trygve Lange-Nielsen regarding whether the two main figures had sold narcotics to others than those indicted, one of them replied that he could have filled a book with names if he were to mention all those with whom he had been in contact in connection with the drug traffic.

Defenders of the two main figures in the case are attorneys Fridtjof Feydt and Benedict de Vibe.

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UNITED KINGDOM

BRIEF

BRITISH CUSTOMS SEIZE HEROIN--London, June 20 (AP)--Undercover customs agents have seized 5.5 kilograms of Southwest Asia-imported heroin with a street value of about US\$6 million, a Customs spokesman said. Four Turkish Cypriots were held in raids on houses in west and north London Thursday night, the climax of several weeks of undercover work, the spokesman said. Customs authorities claimed the bust, one of the biggest heroin seizures in Britain, smashed a major smuggling ring running heroin from Southwest Asia. [Text] [Taipei THE CHINA POST in English 21 Jun 81 p3]

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END